

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE SPECIFICATION

The specification has been amended to correct a minor informality of which the undersigned has become aware. No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendment to the specification be approved and entered.

THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the features of the present invention whereby the driving unit comprises a driving engine for driving at least one rear wheel of the driving vehicle, the driving motor is independent of the driving unit, and the driving motor drives at least one front wheel of the driving vehicle. See, for example, Fig. 5.

In addition, claims 1 and 2 have been amended to make some minor grammatical improvements and to correct some minor antecedent basis problems so as to more clearly and positively recite the features of the present invention in better U.S. form.

Still further, new claims 12 and 13, depending from claim 1, have been added based on the subject matter of (now canceled) claims 5 and 6.

New independent claim 14, moreover, has been added to recite a power supply vehicle that moves together with the driving vehicle and supplies power to the driving motor, wherein the power supply vehicle is detachable connected to the driving vehicle, and the power supply vehicle comprises a second motor and is self-driven by the second motor. See, for example, Fig. 9.

Yet still further, new claim 15 has been added to recite the connector sections of the driving vehicle and power supply vehicle, based on the subject matter of (now canceled) claim 7.

And finally, new claims 16 and 17 have been added to recite additional features of the power supply vehicle, based on subject matter recited in (now canceled) claims 9 and 11.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to claims 1 and 2 and the addition of new claims 12-17 be approved and entered.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1, 2 and 7 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by USP 6,390,215 ("Kodama et al"), and claims 5, 6, 8, 9 and 11 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the combination of Kodama et al with US 2002/0038730 ("Bidwell"). These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed with respect to the claims as amended hereinabove.

According to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1, a traveling system is provided which comprises a driving vehicle driven by a driving unit, and a driving motor mounted on the driving vehicle. As recited in amended independent claim 1, the driving unit comprises a driving engine for driving at least one rear wheel of the driving vehicle, the driving motor is independent of the driving unit, and the driving motor drives at least one front wheel of the driving vehicle. In addition, according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1, a power supply section is provided that moves together with the driving vehicle and supplies power to the driving motor.

Thus, according to the present invention as recited in amended claim 1, the driving vehicle includes two driving sources: a driving unit including a driving engine that drives the rear wheel(s) of the vehicle, and a driving motor that is independent of the driving unit and which drives the front wheel(s) of the vehicle, and the power supply section is provided to supply power to the driving motor.

It is respectfully submitted that the cited references clearly do not disclose, teach or suggest these features of the present invention.

Indeed, although Kodama et al discloses a trailer that is attachable to an electrically-powered vehicle to supplement the

power of the vehicle (i.e., for long trips), Kodama et al merely discloses that the electrically-powered vehicle is driven by a motor. That is, it is respectfully submitted that Kodama et al does not disclose, teach or suggest a driving vehicle including driving unit including a driving engine, and a driving motor that is independent of the driving unit and to which power is supplied from a power supply section.

Bidwell, moreover, is directed to providing auxiliary power to a vehicle such as a bicycle or scooter. Clearly, therefore, Bidwell also does not disclose, teach or suggest a driving vehicle including a driving engine and a driving motor independent of the engine.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that even the combination of Bidwell and Kodama et al clearly fails to disclose, teach or suggest the features of the present invention recited in amended independent claim 1.

With respect to new independent claim 14, it is respectfully pointed out that the Examiner has acknowledged that Kodama et al does not disclose a power supply vehicle that is capable of driving itself. For this reason, the Examiner has cited Bidwell. See page 7 of the Office Action.

It is respectfully submitted, however, that Bidwell does not relate to supplying power to a driving vehicle that is itself driven by a driving unit and that also comprises a driving motor,

as according to the present invention as recited in new independent claim 14. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that new independent claim 14 patentably distinguishes over the combination of Bidwell and Kodama et al.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that each of amended independent claim 1, claims 2, 12 and 13 depending therefrom, new independent claim 14 and claims 15-17 depending therefrom, all clearly patentably distinguish over Kodama et al and Bidwell, taken singly or in combination, under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.

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Entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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